

14. (Amended) A method of bridging a plurality of PCI segments mounted on a PCI chassis without occupying a front side slot of said PCI chassis, comprising:
 - connecting a first PCI segment card and a second PCI segment card with a first PCI bridge board; and
 - locating said PCI bridge board along a backplane.
15. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim 14, further comprising:
 - mounting said PCI bridge board in a notch between the PCI chassis and a transition card.
16. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim 14, further comprising:
 - connecting a second PCI segment card and a third PCI segment card with a second PCI bridge board; and
 - locating said PCI bridge board along said backplane.
17. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim 16, wherein:
 - bridging said first, said second, and said third PCI segments with said first and said second PCI bridge boards is performed with a transparent bridge.
18. (Amended) A method in accordance with claim 16, wherein:
 - bridging said first, said second, and said third PCI segments with said first and said second PCI bridge boards is performed with a non-transparent bridge.
19. (Amended) A method of bridging PCI segments on a PCI chassis, comprising:
 - connecting a pair of adjacent PCI cards of adjacent PCI segments with a PCI bridge board across the Groups of P1 and P2 pins on the backplane of a pair of adjacent PCI slots; and